

The Uwharrie

Morrow Mountain State Park is located in the ancient Uwharrie Mountains. Now worn down to rounded ridges that average less than 1,000 feet in elevation, these pinnacles are the remains of one of the oldest mountain ranges in the eastern United States. This beautiful landscape is the result of powerful geological forces that began millions of years ago. Over time, wind and water eroded the lofty peaks to their more subdued profile of today. Of the four major peaks in the park - Morrow, Sugarloaf, Hattaway and Fall - Morrow Mountain is the highest at an elevation of 936 feet.



History Highlights

The discovery of artifacts in the area tells of the presence of American Indians 10,000 years prior to European settlement. European colonization began along the banks of the Pee Dee River in the 1700s. In 1780 a public ferry which linked the area to the major roadway was established by John Kirk, a Scotch-Irish settler. This ferry was used until the year 1923 when construction of the Swift Island Bridge was completed.

Development of the park began in the 1930s through the efforts of a local committee interested in establishing a state park in the area. By 1937, more than 3,000 acres of land had been acquired, much of it donated by the citizens of Stanly County. The park was opened to the public in the summer of 1939. Early development was a cooperative effort between state and federal governments. Work crews of the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Work Projects Administration constructed many of the facilities between 1937 and 1942. Additional facilities were added with state funds in the 1950s and 1960s. Today the park is comprised of 4,742 acres of the Uwharrie landscape.

Camping

Family Camping: Choose from 106 campsites for tents and RVs. Each site in the family campground is equipped with a picnic table and a grill. Drinking water and modern restrooms with showers are conveniently located. Camp Loop C offers 22 sites with electric hook-ups, including six accessible campsites and an accessible showerhouse. There are no sewer hook-ups but a dump station is provided. Campsites are available on a first-come basis and a modest fee is charged for each site. An amphitheater, often the

scene of interpretive programs, is located near the campground.

Primitive Camping: Backpack into the woods for camping in a wilderness setting. A two-mile hike from the park office leads to the primitive campground. A pit toilet is provided in the camping area but drinking water and all other supplies must be carried to the site. Fires are not permitted. A backpack camping permit is required and may be obtained from park staff. All trash must be packed out.

Group Camping: The group tent camping area is located near the river and is accessed by a gravel loop road. Six sites, each with picnic tables and a fire circle, provide a wilderness camping experience for organized groups. Drinking water and an accessible showerhouse are centrally located. Campsite #4 is fully accessible. Reservations are required for use of the area and a modest fee is charged.

Vacation Cabins

The scenery is beautiful and the lodging relaxing. Six rustic family vacation cabins offer the opportunity to get away from it all. Located in a wooded section of the park, each cabin has two bedrooms, bathroom, living room, fireplace and kitchen with dining space. The fully-equipped cabins will accommodate six persons. During the summer months, cabins must be rented by the week. The cabins may be rented for a minimum of two nights throughout the rest of the year. Contact the park office for reservations and fee information. Pets are not allowed in the cabins or in the surrounding area. Cabin #6 is fully accessible.



Pack A Picnic

Have lunch on the summit of Morrow Mountain where one of the park's two picnic grounds is located. Drinking water and restrooms are located nearby. Hungry swimmers may replenish themselves at the picnic area beyond the pool where grills are scattered throughout the area. Each area also offers a picnic shelter with tables and a grill, a great place to host a large gathering. The lower picnic area beyond the pool has a large accessible 10-table picnic shelter and a six-table picnic shelter with a fireplace. Morrow Mountain Summit also has a four-table picnic shelter with a fireplace. Shelters can be reserved for a modest fee. When not reserved, shelters are available free of charge on a first-come basis.

Water Sports

Fishing: Cast your line on Lake Tillery or fish from the river banks. Game fish include largemouth bass, striped bass, white bass, crappie, perch, bluegill and catfish. A North Carolina fishing license is required.



Swimming: Take the plunge. A dip in the swimming pool is the perfect way to cool off after a long hike. Open June through Labor Day, all swimming facilities are accessible for persons with disabilities. The pool is served by a stone bathhouse which was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Work Projects Administration. The facility includes restrooms, changing rooms and showers. Snacks and cold drinks are also available. Children will enjoy playing in the adjacent kiddie pool. A modest fee is charged.

Boating: A boat ramp at the end of the park road will put you on the water. A small parking area is available to park your trailer. A large parking lot along the lake, provides access to the boathouse, fishing pier and two hiking trails. Several picnic tables and trails are nearby and a wooden pier offers views of the waterway. Restrooms are available during operating hours.

Rowboats and canoes may be rented at the boathouse located at the end of the parking area. Available daily from June through Labor Day and weekends in April, May, September and October, these small craft are the perfect mode of transportation for the tranquil waters of Lake Tillery. During the summer months, snacks and drinks may be purchased at the boathouse.

Kron House

The 1800s are still alive at Morrow Mountain. History buffs will enjoy the homesite of Dr. Francis Kron which is located at the foot of Fall Mountain. Dr. Kron, who was born in Prussia and emigrated to America in 1823. He is recognized as the first medical doctor to settle and practice medicine in the southern piedmont of North Carolina.

Dr. Kron traveled long distances to care for those in the area, practicing medicine until after the age of eighty. A noted horticulturist, he was also actively involved in education. His home, doctor's office, infirmary and greenhouse were reconstructed in the 1960s and appear today, much as they did in 1870.

Trails

The beauty and diversity of Morrow Mountain State Park can be observed along the park's many trails. Waters and woodlands are home to a variety of plant and animal life. Frogs and salamanders live in and near streams and marshes, where warm rains bring the mating calls of spring peepers and chorus frogs. Birds enjoy the wooded environment in all seasons. In the upland forests, observant hikers may spot a scarlet kingsnake, one of North Carolina's most colorful snakes or catch a glimpse of a white-tailed deer.

Hiking: Choose from a short, self-guiding nature trail or a more extensive hike into the woodlands. Up mountain slopes, through hardwood forests and along gentle streams, Morrow Mountain has more than 15 miles of hiking trails. A hike to the summit of Morrow Mountain is particularly rewarding as rolling hills, lush green farmlands and the curving river can be seen stretching out in the distance. All hiking trails are blazed. Switchbacks or sharp changes in trail direction are denoted by double-blazing. See the trail legend for distance and difficulty.

Bridle: Wander through forests, follow beautiful Mountain Creek down to the river or ride the loop around the base of Morrow Mountain. Equestrians may enjoy the park from 16 miles of bridle trails. Trailheads and trailer parking are located near the park entrance. There are no facilities for camping with horses. State law requires that all horses brought into the park have proof of being tested for Equine Infectious Anemia.

Nature's Classroom

North Carolina State Parks hold the key to many of nature's best-kept secrets. Unlock the door to nature's classroom and watch the mysteries begin to unfold. Our rangers will guide you on exciting explorations where you'll uncover fascinating natural surroundings and make great discoveries about the world in which we live.



Rules & Regulations

Make your visit a safe and rewarding experience. The following rules and regulations are in effect throughout the park for the protection of our natural resources and our visitors. A complete listing of rules is available at the park office.

- ❑ The removal of any plant, animal, rock or artifact is prohibited.
- ❑ All state parks are wildlife preserves. Hunting or trapping is not permitted.
- ❑ Help maintain a clean environment for others by throwing trash in proper receptacles. State law requires aluminum cans be placed in recycling containers.
- ❑ Horses are permitted only on designated bridle trails.
- ❑ All boating and fishing regulations of the Wildlife Resources Commission are enforced in the park.
- ❑ Firearms and fireworks are not permitted.
- ❑ The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
- ❑ North Carolina motor vehicle and traffic laws apply in the park. Speed limit is 25 m.p.h.
- ❑ Pets must be on a leash no longer than six feet. Pets are not allowed in the cabins, bathhouse or pool areas or rental boats.
- ❑ No picnicking, fishing, or sunbathing is allowed on the boat dock.
- ❑ Camping is permitted in designated areas by permit only.
- ❑ Fires are permitted only in designated areas.
- ❑ As a courtesy to other campers, observe the posted campground quiet hours.

For Your Safety

To prevent accidents, remember the following safety tips.

- ❑ Do not feed or approach wildlife. North Carolina is experiencing a rise in rabies cases. Report sick or aggressive animals to rangers.
- ❑ Observe all swimming pool rules.
- ❑ Due to underwater hazards, and irregular water depths, swimming from the park's shoreline is not permitted.
- ❑ Remember you may be boating in unfamiliar waters. Exercise cautious seamanship.
- ❑ Do not water-ski in boat launch or mooring areas.
- ❑ Venomous snakes, ticks and poisonous plants may be found along park trails. Exercise caution.

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Park gates are locked at specific times which vary with the seasons. Should an emergency arise after the gates are locked, there is a pay phone outside the park office and one in front of the pool. Emergency procedures are posted beside the phone.

Contact park staff for other safety tips or for an explanation of park rules.

The N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation is a division of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

William G. Ross Jr.
Secretary



Michael F. Easley
Governor

25,000 copies of this public document were printed at a cost of \$4,745.75 or .18 cents per copy.
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Welcome!

Enjoy the gifts of nature surrounded by the remnants of a once mighty range of peaks. Upon first encounter, the Uwharrie Mountains may seem like a mountainous mirage. These steep rugged hills, unusual topography for the area, form a stark contrast with the rolling countryside of the piedmont plateau.

Recreation is plentiful in and around the waters of Lake Tillery and the Yadkin/Pee Dee River. Fishing, boating and swimming are popular pastimes. Nature lovers can choose from miles of trails to travel on foot or horseback. And for those who want to stay and take it all in, cabins and camping are available.

There's really only one word to describe Morrow Mountain State Park - variety. From the family car or RV, to horseback and canoe, or even a pair of hiking boots, a visit to Morrow Mountain lets you choose your kind of adventure.



Information

To learn more about Morrow Mountain State Park, contact:

Morrow Mountain State Park
49104 Morrow Mountain Road
Albemarle, NC 28001
(704) 982-4402
denr.dpr.morrow.mountain@lists.ncmail.net
www.ncparks.gov

Discover other North Carolina state parks and recreation areas, contact:

N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation
Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources
1615 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1615
(919) 733-4181

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Legend

- Amphitheater
- Boat Launch
- Boat Rentals
- Boundary Line
- Bridle Trail
- Dump Station
- Family Camping
- Family Vacation Cabins
- Group Camping
- Hiking Trail
- Information
- Museum
- Park Gate
- Park Office
- Picnicking
- Primitive Camping
- Public Telephone
- Ranger Residence
- Road-Gravel
- Road-Paved
- Stanly Memorial Hospital - **Emergency 911**
- Swimming Pool

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

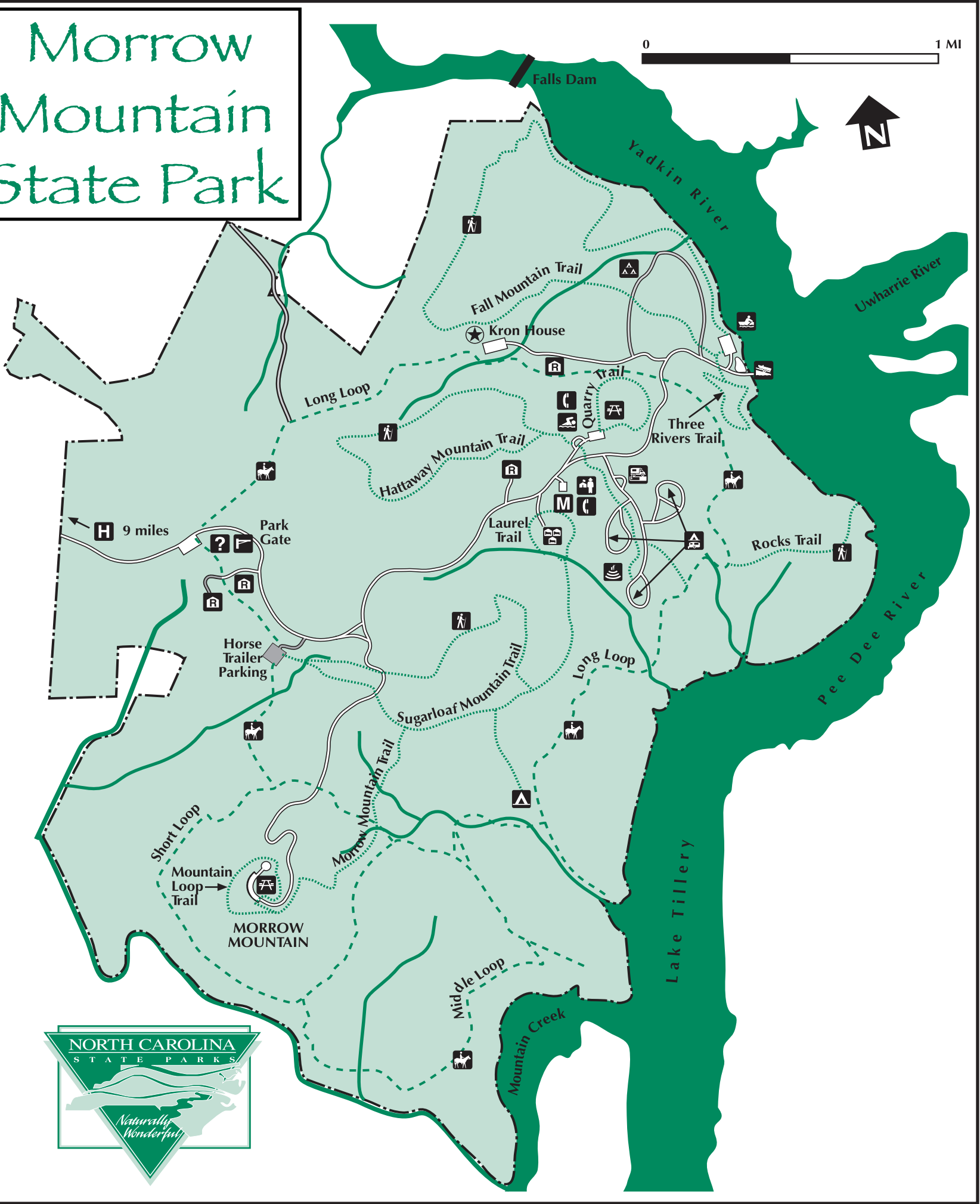
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Trails

Backpack	2.0 miles, easy	white circles
Bridle: Short Loop*	3.9 miles, moderate	white circles
Bridle: Middle Loop*	5.5 miles, moderate	blue circles
Bridle: Long Loop*	9.3 miles, moderate	red circles
Campground/Pool	.8 miles, easy	white triangles
Fall Mountain	4.1 miles, moderate	orange triangles
Hattaway Mountain	2.0 miles, strenuous	orange squares
Laurel	.6 miles, easy	red hexagons
Morrow Mountain**	2.6 miles, moderate	blue triangles
Mountain Loop	.8 miles, easy	red squares
Quarry	.6 miles, easy	blue diamonds
Rocks**	1.3 miles, easy	blue squares
Sugarloaf Mountain	2.8 miles, strenuous	orange diamonds
Three Rivers	.8 miles, easy	blue hexagons

* All bridle trails may be used for hiking.
** Distance is measured one way, double distance for round trip.

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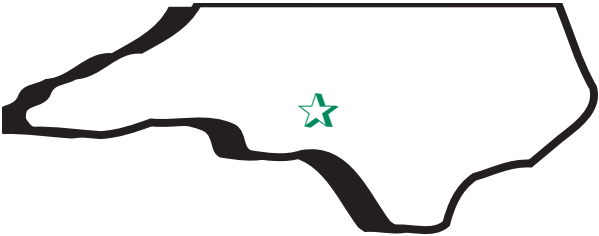


N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation
Department of Environment and Natural Resources



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Morrow Mountain State Park is located in Stanly County, six miles east of Albemarle and is accessible from N.C. highways 24/27, 73 and 740.

Park Hours

November - February 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
March - May, September & October 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
June - August 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Closed Christmas Day